Preparatory Committee for the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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Proposals for Inclusion in the Report of the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

Working paper submitted by China

Implementation of the Provisions of NPT Relating to Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Safeguards and Nuclear-weapon-free Zones

The Chinese delegation hereby submits the following proposals for inclusion into the recommendation section of the report of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2000 NPT Review Conference:

Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

1. In order to achieve the objective set out in NPT for preventing nuclear weapon proliferation, States parties should work for the building-up of a just and fair new international political and economic order, and strive to do away with hegemonism, power politics and the nuclear deterrence strategy characterized by "the first use of nuclear weapons". In this way, all countries would feel secure, thus removing the fundamental incentives to acquire, develop or retain nuclear weapons.

2.To achieve the NPT's objective of nuclear weapon non-proliferation, the practice of double standards or multi-standards must be opposed, bloc export control arrangements should be replaced by non-discriminatory and universally negotiated multilateral treaties.

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Safeguards

All States parties should support the IAEA program for strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system, conclude agreement with IAEA on the application of the model protocol and implement these agreements as soon as possible. IAEA should promote its work in safeguards and in the peaceful use of nuclear energy in a balanced way.

Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones

1. The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones by the non-nuclear-weapon States on the basis of voluntary consultations and arrangements freely arrived at is conducive to the prevention of nuclear weapon proliferation and contributes to the maintenance of international peace and security. All nuclear-weapon States should pledge their support for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, respect their status and undertake corresponding obligations, including the legal obligation towards the nuclear-weapon-free zones as well as the unconditional obligation of not being the first to use nuclear weapons and not using or threatening to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States.

2. States parties to a nuclear-weapon-free zone, if they are States parties to other international or regional agreements at the same time, should ensure that their observance of other international or regional agreements do not contradict their obligations to the treaty establishing the nuclear-weapon-free zone.

3. Nuclear-weapon-free zones should constitute a geographical entity whose boundaries are to be clearly defined by the prospective States parties to the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty through full consultations with other States concerned, especially in cases where territories in dispute are involved, with a view to facilitating agreement of the other States concerned.